

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the following claims as set forth below.

Sub F2
E2
Sub F2
14. (Amended Twice) A method of treating chronic inflammation in a patient in need of such treatment, comprising administering to the patient a chronic inflammation treating effective amount of erythropoietin [over a period of at least 2 weeks], wherein the patient does not have anemia of chronic disease or rheumatoid arthritis.

Sub F3
E3
Sub F3
18. (Amended Twice) A method of treating a symptom [symptoms] associated with rheumatoid arthritis in a patient in need of such treatment, comprising administering to the patient a rheumatoid arthritis symptoms treating effective amount of erythropoietin over a treatment period [of], wherein said treatment period is at least 3 [2] weeks, wherein said symptom is at least one symptom selected from the group consisting of pain, loss of grip strength, painful joints, and swollen joints.

Sub F4
E4
Sub F4
20. (Amended Twice) A method of ameliorating a disease activity of rheumatoid arthritis in a patient in need of such amelioration, comprising administering to the patient a rheumatoid arthritis disease activity ameliorating effective amount of erythropoietin over a period, wherein said period is [of] at least 3 [2] weeks, wherein said disease activity is an erythrocyte sedimentation rate or C-reactive protein level.

Please add claims 30 and 31 as follows.

Sub F5
E5
Sub F5
30. A method of treating a symptom associated with rheumatoid arthritis in a patient in need of such treatment, comprising administering to the patient a rheumatoid